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FOR SHEER
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THE KABUL TIMES

ROAMER
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VOL. VII, NO. 218

KABUL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1968 (QAUS 20, 1347 S.H.)

PRICE AFS. 4

NOOR TO BUILD EYE CLINIC

KABUL, Dec. 11, (Bakhtar).—The National Organisation for Ophthalmic Rehabilitation of Britain and the Public Health Ministry signed a protocol yesterday for construction of an \$1,000,000 eye clinic in Kabul.

The clinic will have 60 beds and will be built in Alaudin on Darulaman road. The project also includes construction of an eye bank, and institute for eye disease research, and an institute for the blind.

The protocol was signed for the Public Health Ministry by President Dr. Abdullah Omar and for Noor by Dr. Harward, Harper. Noor has been cooperating with Afghanistan in surveying, treating eye diseases since 1966. Presently there are two NOOR specialists who work in Wazir Akbar Khan and Ebne Seena Hospitals.

The new hospital, the foundation stone of which will be laid shortly, will provide in country training for eye specialists and operate mobile eye clinics.

OTTAWA, Dec. 11, (AP).—Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, United Nations high commissioner for refugees, said Tuesday the solution to the Nigerian war is peace, not trying to transfer refugees to other countries.

He also said "it might be more in the interests of the people themselves", if Canadian supported aid programmes in neighbouring African countries, instead of trying to bring children to Canada for adoption.



Dr. Abdullah Omar and Dr. Harward signing the protocol.

Pashtoonistanis continue to attack Pakistani govt.

KABUL, Dec. 11, (Bakhtar).—Reports from Peshawar, central occupied Pashtoonistan, say that protest meetings and demonstrations against the Pakistani Government have taken place in Peshawar, Mardan, Naushar, Dere Ismail Khan, and other places in occupied Pashtoonistan.

The reports add that hatred of Pakistani Government among the people is finding new impetus in the wake of recent Pakistani Government actions against the nationalists in Pashtoonistan.

Reports from Kasem Keley in Peshawar says the National Awami League held a huge meeting in the local grand mosque demanding immediate revocation of the unit arrangement and unconditional and immediate release of Pashtoonistani leaders from imprisonment.

In Dere Ismail Khan the President of the Islamic Jameyat-ul-Islamia, Kazi Abdul Latif, chaired a large meeting that ruled that the laws presently promulgated by the Pakistani Government are Unislamic.

Unless the Government of Pakistan does not heed student and other independence seekers' demands they will not have peace, it warned.

The meeting said demonstrations which are going on in the entire occupied Pashtoonistan area show that the people neither believe in the Pakistani Government nor in their laws.

If the Pakistani Government claims legality and proper jurisdiction it must hold a referendum so that facts become known to everybody.

Soviet budget:

Military spending increases by \$1,100 M.

MOSCOW, Dec. 11, (AFP).—Soviet military spending will increase by 1,000 million rubles (\$1,100 million) in 1969 according to budget submitted yesterday to the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet sitting in joint session.

But despite the increase, military expenditure which would total 17,700 million rubles (\$19,500 million) would represent only 13.2 per cent of the budget against 13.5 per cent in 1968.

Announcing these figures, finance minister Viktor Garbuzov said the present situation made it necessary for the Soviet Union to increase military spending.

But the Soviet government wished to encourage a policy of international détente and proposed to entertain good neighbour relations with all countries which were disposed to accept its proposal he said.

Earlier in the session Nikolai Baibakov, chairman of the state planning commission, disclosed that consumer goods production would have a lesser priority next year than in 1968.

Party secretary general Leonid

Brezhnev, chief of state Nikolai Podgorny and Premier Alexei Kosygin were in the platform when the two ministers unveiled the 1969 economic plan and budget.

Budgetary estimates call for a total income of 134,000 million rubles (\$147,000 million), and get expenditures at 133,800 million rubles (\$147,180 million).

The allocations are: Education 58,300 millions, social and cultural affairs 51,000 millions, administration 1,600 millions and defence 17,700 millions.

Fiscal revenues will account only for 11,500 millions rubles.

Planning commission chairman Baibakov, said light industry production was plotted to increase by 7.5 per cent and heavy industry accelerated by 7.2 per cent.

This was in marked contrast with the 1968 plan which had favoured consumer production by providing for a growth rate in light industry of 8.6 per cent, seven points higher than the 7.9 per cent growth planned for heavy industry.

National income this year was expected to increase by 7.2 per cent

Baibakov said. He reported that gross agricultural output in 1968 had attained the highest ever level in the history of the country and that 18 million more tons of grain were harvested than last year.

Baibakov warned that the present rate of growth of labour productivity "did not accord with the country's development needs".

He announced increased trade relations with developing countries with Soviet exports being dominated as hitherto by machinery and equipment.

Trade with developed capitalist countries will also be advanced with a total increase of 5.7 per cent envisaged.

The economic plan called for the building of 500 kms of railroads, and for electrification of another 1,500 kms.

Oil production is to be increased to 326 million tons (19 per cent more gasoline). Increase of natural gas production was set at eight per cent.

Target for coal was set at 595 million tons that for steel at 112.6 million tons.

Soviet cosmonaut describes importance of weightlessness

MOSCOW, Dec. 11, (Tass).—Space pilot Georgy Beregovoy declared that weightlessness is a highly important factor in the conquest of outer space and its effect on human organism should be considered most cautiously, and most seriously.

Pravda yesterday carried the final installment of the cosmonaut's story of his life and the flight on board the "Soyuz-3".

Evidently, he goes on to say, it is necessary to get used to weightlessness, to adapt oneself to it before, gradually beginning to work. The cosmonaut remarks that many necessary actions were made almost automatically, without any effort of will power, after his organism had got finally accustomed to weightlessness.

Beregovoy describes in detail how he saw the earth and the moon, the darkness of outer space only slightly illuminated by large, bright stars.

The cosmonaut recalls how he watched thunder storms over the earth several times. The flares of the lightning pierced the dark space, thunders roared somewhere beneath "while in my cabin it was quiet, warm and comfortable."

"No elemental calamities penetrated there, into the silence of

outer space, only the familiar voice of friends who closely watched the flight of the "Soyuz-3" he says.

"With each passing day or rather with each passing hour of the flight I got more and more adapted to the regime on board the ship, the cosmonaut said. All the time I was fit to work and felt fine.

Before descending Beregovoy went from the orbital capsule into the pilot's cabin. The "Soyuz-3" started descending somewhere in the area of the equator and began gradually entering into the dense layer of the atmosphere.

The reflection of flames was seen through the portholes but the ship with its heat protection could stand up to the outward temperature of several hundred degrees centigrade.

Prague envoy reaffirms ties with socialists

MOSCOW, Dec. 11, (Tass).—The treaty on friendship and cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union, signed on December 12, 1943, was one of the most important turning points in the modern history of our two peoples, the Czechoslovak Ambassador Vladimir Koucky said in a Tass interview in connection with its 25th anniversary.

He said this treaty "determined a whole historic stage in the further development of Czechoslovakia, characterised by the building of socialist society and, in the field of foreign relations, close cooperation and friendship with the Soviet Union, and our country's gradual inclusion into the community of socialist states."

The further expansion and strengthening of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship, for which the best sons and daughters of our people have always struggled, is one of the main purposes of socialist Czechoslovakia, Vladimir Koucky said.

The ambassador noted that the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the entire Czechoslovak people were solving difficult questions of their further development.

UK tells USSR she wants better ties

LONDON, Dec. 11, (AFP).—Britain yesterday declared its desire for improved relations with the Soviet Union, and rejected Moscow's recent charge that it used the Czech crisis as a pretext for worsening such relations. The reply was in the form of a note which also said: "We firmly believe that we must continue to do business together where the re is business to be done in the political, commercial and cultural fields. But the Soviet government's action against Czechoslovakia inevitably caused a setback to the mutual confidence between the two governments."

Britain said it regretted the USSR had failed to give a "constructive reply" to the proposal by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) for a reciprocal cut in forces in Europe.

It continued: "Her majesty's government and, they believe, the whole British people want the best possible relations with the government and people of the Soviet Union. But to achieve this is not the sole responsibility of the British government and people. It depends also on the policies and actions of the government and people of the Soviet Union."

In support of today's note, Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart has told Soviet Ambassador Mikhail Smernovsky that Britain is ready to welcome any initiative by Moscow for improving British-Soviet relations.

IMF urges U.S., UK to solve payments problems

NEW YORK, Dec. 11, (AFP).—The director general of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Pierre Paul Schweitzer said yesterday that the best way to restore confidence in the international monetary system was for the United States and Britain to get their balance of payments problems solved on a permanent basis.

He told an insurance companies audience that recent events had demonstrated "the need to improve the functioning of the international monetary system". But at no point in his speech did he mention any possibility of a new international conference to reform the monetary system.

He said an improvement could be brought about by better cooperation between advanced nations in the formulation of their economic policies with a view to overall financial stability.

Schweitzer continued: "This approach involves a willingness on the part of countries in persistent payments deficit to pursue less expansionary policies than they might otherwise prefer, and a willingness on the part of countries tending to run persistent surpluses to pursue more expansionary policies than they might have been inclined to adopt for purely domestic reasons."

Declaration called landmark on road to human rights

UNO-NEW YORK, Washington, Dec. 11, (DPA).—Iranian Princess Pahlavi said Tuesday the 20th anniversary of the human rights declaration was a landmark on the long road which would eventually lead to the attainment of human rights by all everywhere.

The princess was speaking in her capacity as chairman of the Tehran Human Rights conference attended by 84 nations earlier this year.

In her view this occasion should also serve for a solemn salute to those pioneers who had worked for implementation of human rights principles as far back as 1848.

During the Tehran conference, she went on, it had been emphasised that the United Nations had the duty to see to it the hunger, violence, lack of education, and disease would be erased from the world.

At a festive session, the UN General Assembly marked the 20th anniversary of the human rights declaration, but many speeches stressed gaps between the ideals of the 1948 declaration, and political reality.

Assembly President Foreign Minister Emilio Arenales of Guatemala said the year 1968 had seen several flagrant violations of human rights.

Secretary-General U Thant also

Rene Cassin wins Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO, Dec. 11, (Reuters).—Nobel Peace prize winner Rene Cassin of France warned of the grave dangers of world peace when he received the award from Norway's King Olaf here Tuesday.

Professor Cassin, honorary president of France's highest legal authority, the Conseil d'Etat, referred to the "formidable powers of destruction", of atomic energy at the prize-giving ceremony at Oslo University.

"In the face of such grave dangers, the man judged worthy of receiving this year's Nobel peace prize is gripped not only by emotion, but by a feeling of humility and a profound determination," he said.

Prof. Cassin, as a combatant of two (world) wars, described the progress made over the last 18 years in drawing up a charter of human rights as not negligible.

Pak opium smuggler caught

KABUL, Dec. 11, (Bakhtar).—A Pakistani citizen who was carrying 20 bags of opium which he was taking from Pakistan to Iran was intercepted in Chauki Arghandi on the Kabul-Kandahar highway. The smuggler, Mokhtar Ahmad, was driving a Mercedes Benz with a foreign licence plate number. Two Pakistani passports and a pistol were also found. Investigation is still continuing, an Interior Ministry source said.

Resurgent Italian students clash with police again

ROME, Dec. 11, (AFP).—Clashes between police and demonstrators yesterday marked resurgent student disturbances and strike outbreaks in Italy.

In Genoa 11 police and demonstrators were injured in fighting which broke out last night in front of the police headquarters building.

The clashes occurred when several hundred police charged a crowd of about 1,000 students and workers protesting against police intervention yesterday at the Physics Institute.

The police charged after the demonstrators, who were blocking traffic and shouting "police killers", refused to disperse.

The students later reoccupied the Physics Institute. The crack Italian transatlantic liner Leonardo da Vinci, due to sail this afternoon from Genoa to New York, failed to leave port when officers and crew demanded extra payment for what they

Scranton sees hope for Mideast settlement

TEL AVIV, Dec. 11, (AFP).—William Scranton, special envoy of President-elect Richard Nixon, said at the close of his Middle East tour yesterday that he was more encouraged about the chances of a peaceful settlement in the area than he had been before his arrival.

He conferred with Israeli foreign minister Abba Eban, deputy premier Igal Alon and defence minister Moshe Dayan.

Scranton told a press conference that there were still tremendous tensions in the region, caused by deep antagonisms, which might result in a war.

"After all," he added, "very few people could have predicted the June, 1967, war".

He said he was carrying messa-

ges from practically all the Middle East countries, including Israel. His tour included Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

Asked what he meant by his assertion that he expected American policy in the area to be more "even-handed", he said many people had formed the impression the United States was more interested in one country than other.

This impression, he said, is essentially based upon statements made in the U.S. It is important that this impression should be erased, he added.

In reply to a question on whether the United States would continue to adhere to President Johnson's "five points" for solving the crisis, he said: "In think they are good

and, to the best of my knowledge, President-elect Nixon will follow them."

Scranton made it clear that there was an important provision to Nixon's campaign statement that "Israel should be assured of a military technological priority in order to compensate for the Arab's numerical superiority."

This statement he said, was qualified by the provision as long as there is a direct and imminent threat to Israel.

Meanwhile Israel yesterday claimed to have shot down one Egyptian Mig-17 and hit two others, while an Amman statement said Iraqi forces in Jordan shot down an Israeli plane.



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Building up vs building down

The news about the construction of a 60-bed clinic for eye-care in Kabul is more than welcome, since eye diseases are very common in this country. In fact there are very few who are not suffering from various stages of trachoma. The fact that the British National Organisation for Ophthalmic Rehabilitation (Noor), has undertaken to include in the clinic facilities for training Afghan nurses and other medical personnel makes the project all the more worthwhile.

While Noor deserves every appreciation for its humanitarian work in building the clinic one may question the sense of using so much land for such projects. The clinic will be built on an 15 acre area in Alaudin, a very fertile area which for years has been supplying the city with vegetables and dairy products.

This is perhaps typical of the city of Kabul. During recent years of Kabul growth one and two storey buildings have been erected on first class agricultural land.

The advantages of building multi-storey constructions have not even been discussed publicly or to the best of our knowledge privately. One of the obvious advantages of building along the slopes is the natural drainage and sewage systems. Gravity provides the solution for many a drainage problem which would otherwise have to be solved through pressure pumps. Since the mountain slopes with plenty of stone and gravel for building are generally barren, using them widely construction purposes will free agricultural land for farming.

However, it is too late to suggest a complete

change in the city's construction policy. But at least we could use the flat agricultural land in the city sparingly and with moderation. Most of the new highschools being built with the assistance of friendly countries such as the new AIT, the new Isteqal, and the new Nejat are and will be villages of one storey buildings which will naturally look nice, but will also take up a great deal of space in the very heart of the city. While our appreciation for any grants and assistance given by friendly countries remains as high as ever our argument for better use of available land is directed towards our own planners and organisations in charge of handling such projects.

It may be argued that by the large areas allotted for some of the new buildings can be used for open spaces and parks which are an integral part of a modern town. However, this argument may be countered by the fact that within the context of the 25 year plan for the development of Kabul city most of the present mud houses and almost certain the older part of Kabul will be demolished and replaced by parks and recreational grounds. What is more multi-storey buildings go well with the lofty mountains surrounding our capital city in addition to meeting the generally accepted concept that big buildings constitute land marks in a city. Since in the future there will be more public constructions it would be advantageous if this aspect of the construction problem is given due consideration.

Food For Thought

He said they that were serious in ridiculous matters would be ridiculous in serious affairs.

Plutarch

Self-determination

Pashtoon-a taboo word in Pakistan

Following is the third of a series of five articles commenting on a Pakistan Times feature on Afghanistan and Pashtoonistan. The article published on September 1 and entitled "My Kabul Diary" was written by Pakistan Times editor Z. A. Suleri.

The Afghan people consider that they have an undeniable right of interest and concern for the peoples of Pashtoonistan. Even British imperialism recognised this. Pakistan's high-handedness in the affairs of the Pashtoon tribes is legally considered as an encroachment on the rights of an independent community of peoples.

The principles of Moslem nationhood should be applied only to the Moslems of the sub-continent prior to its division and not to the Pashtoons who were neither Indians nor their territory a part of India. The alternative to this is to apply the principles of Moslem nationhood not only to the Pashtoons and the Baluch but also to Afghanistan, Iran and indeed as far away as Indonesia and Morocco.

The question of injecting any other principle in this problem does not arise in case of those who had never been Indian by race or culture during the 5000 years of their history. The Pashtoons and the Baluch do not belong to the peoples of sub-continent whereas the Punjabis, the Sindhis and the Bengalis do.

Hence what holds true for the people of Sindh and Bengal does not hold true in the case of Pashtoons. Therefore Suleri's fear that the freedom granted to the Pashtoons and Baluch would shake the roots of Pakistan is baseless. A people cannot be denied justice and equality on the plea that it may damage the expansionist interest of rulers claiming to be the inheritors of colonialists. The status of Pashtoonistan has therefore to be decided upon exclusively in accordance with the

By Rouhullah Farzaye

freely expressed wishes of Pashtoonistani people.

There is no doubt that the Pashtoonistan issue is a hurdle in the way of closer cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan. But the Afghans have always recognised that political issues are to be distinguished from economic questions.

The Afghans feel an economic cooperation is needed between Pakistan and Afghanistan. A cooperation between these two countries also may be extended to India, Nepal and Iran and for this purpose the countries of this region should try to solve all their mutual political differences. But one should not think in terms of Afghanistan's annihilation without Pakistan's economic cooperation.

One hundred and twenty years of history have proved that however hard economic pressures on Afghanistan from the bank of the Indus river, this country has bravely survived them all.

Suleri while discussing "Factors at work in Afghanistan" has also made some uncharitable remarks about Mrs. Pandit's recent visit to Kabul—a visit he has qualified as a proof of "the Indian intrigue which works day and night". Mrs. Pandit belongs to a family which is respected and honoured throughout the world, including the Islamic states.

Does Suleri know that when the Afghan delegation headed by Mahmood Tarzi went to Mussorie in summer 1920 to hold talks on Afghanistan's independence, the British police prevented Jawaharlal Nehru and his family, including Mrs. Pandit, from staying in Mussorie. The Afghans well recognise and value their friends and remembering 1920 were happy to see Mrs. Pandit in Kabul in the half century commemoration ceremonies of the independence war.

Further Suleri recognises the existence of the advocates of Pashtoon-

nistan in the NWFP. So far Pakistani journalists had denied the existence of this element, which is probably one of the reasons why the Pakistan Times stated that the views expressed by Suleri do not represent those of the paper. However the Pashtoons have not been addressed or called by their proper name, which is one of the taboos in the catalogue of the Pakistani regime, but referred to them as the "local people in the frontier".

Suleri has abstained from calling them Pashtoons but he refers to Ayub Khan as a Pashtoon. Let us refresh his memory by saying that for this purpose Dr. Zaker Husain is also from Pashtoon origin and also Mahmudul Afghani, one of the greatest Arab poets is now living in Jordan. An Afghan became millionaire in California by selling the traditional recipe of birinj-i joshi under the name of minutes rice, etc.!!!

Just after the publication of Suleri's article the September incidents of Quetta and Peshawar proved once again that the residents of these areas have bitterly realised that the Punjabis are exploiting the name of Pakistan and Islam, by appropriating all economic opportunities.

It would be interesting if Pakistani authorities could reveal the number of cartels or firms in Lahore, the major part and the bulk of capital in which is owned by the Pashtoons as also the names of such important companies in Peshawar the major portion of whose capital is not dominated by the Punjabis.

We realise that economic cooperation between all the people including Pakistan or claimed as so with the Punjabis, is useful; but it must be remembered that the people of Pashtoonistan have a greater right to utilise their homeland economic capital than others.

The next part in this series will appear under the title *An end to Fraternisation?*

Currency crisis

FRG blames it on Gaullist economics

The overwhelming majority of informed opinion in the West Germany puts the blame for the latest international currency crisis—the third in about a year—mainly on loss of confidence in the French franc resulting from Gaullist economic and political policies.

Most authoritative West German newspaper comment on the crisis has dealt at length with the predicament of the franc, sometimes to the exclusion of related matters such as calls to revalue the Deutschmark, present and past difficulties encountered by the pound and the dollar, and the price of gold.

President de Gaulle is personally blamed in many newspapers. One of the leading ones, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, for instance, says in a front-page article which views the currency crisis in relation to other events: "Once again, for the supposed glory of France, de Gaulle has decided to follow his own course in a manner which defies all international cooperation between peoples."

It was de Gaulle who paralysed Brussels, who obstructed the further coalescence of the six EEC (European Economic Community) countries, thereby undermining and debasing the idea of a united Europe. The General must not be surprised if he goes down in history as the great breaker of unity."

Another newspaper's description of de Gaulle as the "prophet of national selfishness" is perhaps the best summary of German feelings on the general's handling of monetary and economic affairs—and of much else too.

Though serious and requiring effective settlement as quickly as possible, the currency crisis is not considered here in Frankfurt, or elsewhere in Western Europe, as heralding any world-wide catastrophe such as the slump of the 1930s.

Despite its all too evident weaknesses, the machinery of economic and monetary control has improved immensely since then. Also, Western governments are now under the strongest pressure from trade unions not to allow mass unemployment such as existed in the thirties.

The necessary further improvement in monetary management is now the question uppermost in Western European and U.S. Treasury circles. Two of the main objectives of reform are the elimination from an essentially monetary and economic problem of harmful political relating to over-zealous regard for national prestige, and the effective checking of the activities of currency speculators.

The basic cause of currency crisis is that though the values of the currencies of the main industrialised Western countries remain fixed, these nations' rates of economic growth and their price levels vary. This leads to balance of payments surpluses and deficits. These need to be adjusted by up-valuing or devaluing the various currencies in relation to each other, or by stringent austerity measures such as those imposed in France recently.

Why is France now engaged in what Couve de Murville has described as "the battle of the franc"? Compared with West Germany's great emphasis in investment in in-

dustry and the need for efficiency, France's industrial and agricultural methods often seem outdated. Germany has also been far more successful than France as an exporter, which has drawn vast amounts of foreign money into the Federal Republic.

Also, French government expenditure has been too great, particularly on prestige ventures whose main aim appears to be the promotion of "la gloire de France" rather than any economic or other worthwhile objective.

The most frequently criticised of such ventures is France's nuclear weapons programme. The fact that next year's Pacific Ocean tests are being scrapped as part of the new French austerity measures is a clear enough tacit admission that the Gaullists—when made to face reality—realise that their nuclear arms programme is far behind that of the United States and the Soviet Union and could play no genuine independent deterrent role.

The question still asked is whether France can preserve the external value of the franc—an "enteebled currency" in her Prime Minister's own phrase. Austerity at home may not be sufficient to attract back to France the funds invested abroad, though some may be moved out of Deutschmarks into other currencies.

The eight million workers who left their benches in May returned to work on the assurance that their wage gains would not be whittled away by higher prices—which now seem inevitable.

(Lion Feature)

£7 million embezzlement

Italy's new super-scandal

By John Earle

The game of diverting public funds into private pockets has been going on since the Roman Empire. But when 671 people—among them mayors, civil servants, and members of parliament—are accused of embezzling some £7 million of taxpayers' money, this is a spectacular allegation even by Italian standards.

Some aspects of life have changed little since classical times. Manholes covering Rome's sewers, perhaps not inappropriately still bear the inscription SPQR (Senatus Populusque Romanus) or Senate and People of Rome, as the municipal administration continues to be called. In ancient Rome many fortunes were amassed by tax collectors; in 20th century Italy the collection of some taxes is still put out to tender, with the winner allowed to retain a percentage.

The alleged offences in what is called the INGC scandal date from 1949-54. INGC or Istituto Nazionale Gestione Imposte Consumo (National Institute for Management of Excise Duties) was set up under the Fascist regime in 1936 to clean up an admittedly unsavoury state of affa-

irs in the collection of local taxes and excise duties. Italy has preserved a mediaeval system whereby local authorities levy duty on the entry of goods into their territory. INGC, in its moralising mission, was empowered to compete for the award of concessions for collecting such local taxes.

The storm broke in 1954, when a magazine published a series of allegations. INGC was by then collecting taxes on behalf of nearly two thousand local authorities. The judiciary started an inquiry by an examining magistrate, who under the Italian legal system, determines whether charges should be brought.

Now, nearly 15 years later, the magistrate has completed what is believed to be the longest and most extensive investigation in Italian legal history and has brought charges of embezzlement and corruption against 671 people. Altogether 31,700 people were interrogated, 15,000 made statements in evidence, and possible charges were investigated against 1,183. Of the latter, some

have since died, some were cleared, while others were absolved from minor offences under subsequent amnesty laws.

Between 1949 and 1954 INGC is alleged to have spent about 1,100 million lire—equal to over 10,000 million lire or nearly £7 million in purchasing power today—to bribe and corrupt town councils and civil servants, and to ensure that it was awarded tax collection concessions. Mayors, councillors of both government and opposition parties, officials of prefectures, and local political bosses are all alleged to have received money.

There was, it is related, a scale of payments; from so much for the doorkeeper who saw that the INGC representative was shown in to the mayor without waiting, to so much for the mayor for fixing the town council; more to the local party in power, and lesser sums for the opposition for keeping their mouths shut.

Chief accused is Vincenzo Bavaro, former Christian Democrat Member of Parliament, who was President of INGC. While mill-

(Continued on page 4)

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

All the dailies of the capital yesterday carried articles and editorials on the 20th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The daily *Heywad* in its editorial said, the declaration of human rights is one of the most important documents of an international character which has come about in support and for the realisation of social, civil and political rights of the citizens of this world.

The basic goal of the declaration is to ensure equality, peace and justice among nations in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation. The declaration also aims at preventing actions that would infringe upon other peoples and nations rights.

But, said the paper, we notice with regret that in spite of the fact that the declaration has been signed by most member nations in the world body undermine this document in letter and spirit. People who claim their basic rights are not only not granted them but are also put into jail and subjected to coercion and torture for having demanded their rights.

The racial discrimination in certain parts of the world is being practiced with full vigour and intensity. People in other parts of the world are being denied their rights to self-determination.

Thus we see that colonialism and exploitation which the worst form of violation of human rights have not been done away with yet.

We also see that some countries carry out armed aggression against others, under the very eyes of the world and forcefully occupy other peoples' territories.

We see that like always might is right and weak is meek. Equality and justice between the strong and the weak seems to be a wishful thinking and day dreaming of philosophers and intellectuals.

What is really hindering the realisation of this dream is big powers who instead of combating injustices and aggressions perpetrated by the strong against the weak come out in defence of the aggressor.

We can even say that in certain areas the big powers are themselves the real violators of rights. To prove this claim, said the editorial, it is enough to see the shadow of a big power whenever one studies any

violation of human rights anywhere in the world.

We see right next to us that the right of eight million Pashtoonistanis are being denied. It is only a coincidence that the demand for the attainment of this right was made during the same year as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights came into being.

Who brought about this injustice and rights violation, asked the editorial. Answering the question, it said, a big power who spread the stigma of colonialism in this part of the world.

This violation has been going on to this day under the support of a

big power or at least the big power in question did not agree to confessing to the rights of the people of Pashtoonistan and by doing so get its accounts settled vis-a-vis the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We see that in this Human Rights Year of 1968 a.d. what attitude the government of Pakistan, who considers itself a faithful member of the United Nations, has adopted towards the just demands of the Pashtoon and Baluch people.

It is due to such attitudes and events that human rights cannot be fully realised as recommended in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, concluded the editorial.

World Press

The New York Times says the increasingly flagrant and serious breaches of the peace in the Middle East by both sides may serve a useful purpose if they force the large nations to cooperate better to promote a peaceful settlement.

The paper, in its Sunday editorial said in part: "Both Moscow and Washington are clearly alarmed by the prospect of a new Middle East war, as they should be since both themselves could become quickly involved. The Kremlin has expressed its concern in a *Pravda* editorial. The United States has sharply warned Jordan and Israel against ceasefire violations."

"Hesitation in Cairo appears to be based at least in part on continuing uncertainty about Israel's intentions regarding Jordan's west bank and Jerusalem."

"Israel could assist efforts to break the diplomatic deadlock by dampening down loose talk about integrating the west bank into Israel, by defining the border adjustments Israelis deem essential for their security and by suggesting international arrangements to guarantee access to the holy places in Jerusalem."

"Unless both sides become more flexible, further bloody incidents and eventual renewal of all-out war seem inevitable."

The Press Council—watch dog of

the British press rejected a complaint about a four-letter word used in a London daily newspaper.

The offending word appeared in an article in the *Evening Standard* by James Cameron, describing the events in Chicago at the time of the democratic party convention. He wrote: "All over the town, where once the wall scrawls said 'stop the war' or simply 'peace' they now say—Daley. The four letter word was printed in full."

The editor, Charles Wintour, in 1953 to maintain press standards but without punitive powers, said that he sanctioned the use of the word with reluctance, but found its use uniquely appropriate.

The press council, rejecting the complaint against the evening standard, today ruled: "The use of this four-letter word on a rare occasion as part of a factual description and not unduly emphasised in the narrative is a matter within the editor's discretion."

The Soviet government newspaper *Izvestia* said that NATO's admirals and generals were directing all their attention to the land and sea areas of North Europe, while the Mediterranean was attracting public attention.

The paper claimed that NATO was deploying special activity in the north of Norway, which borders the Soviet Union.

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Afghan Diary

By A Staff Writer

On a chilly morning when I was in a terrible hurry to get to the office, a number of things went wrong.

There was not a drop of warm water to shave. I could not find the brush to brush my suit and finally the car did not start.

I was angry enough in spite of this. I was given a long list of purchases to make, one of the children could not learn his simple arithmetic (could I?) and above all, I did not sleep a wink the whole night because of some chronic indigestion.

However, I did not or could not wake up my wife to tell me where my medicine was hidden from the ravages of the children and I found it right on my reading lamp early in the morning.

Huffing and puffing, I sent for a taxi cab. The closest taxi stand to our street is a shapeless square half-asphalted and half-dirt road with a few odd shops on one corner.

Almost all the taxis prowling there are broken down jalopies of minimum speed with maximum noise. And the one I got was the most curious of all. I did not notice it much in the outset because of my nervousness, but after I was resigned to my fate I looked around and began to familiarise myself with the intricacies of that much tampered-with vehicle.

And the driver was such a sociable person. Uncouth and wild-looking, he started at me from the corner of his slanted eyes and grinned. I gave him the direction which highly impressed him. But that was all. As soon as he started his speaking carrier, he was in full control, both of the car and the conversation. I thought it would be wise to say yes or no as the case required and not when I began to lose my temper. But he possessed a sea of patience.

From the beginning of my fateful journey to the end, he greeted me more than a dozen of other cabbies, shook his left hand with two of them at the intersections and exchanged a few remarks with some of his pals who apparently liked him.

But the most remarkable thing he did was to hurl a package to a colleague. The moment they noticed each other, both of them simultaneously opened their window panes and my driver hurled the small package from his seat through the window of the other car which his crony snatched greedily.

When I asked him what this contained, he shrugged his shoulders and said it was something which he badly needed. So I did not press him further.

Then I busied myself with the three bulbs he had fixed in the ceiling of his jalopy. The ten-year-old Moscovitch did not have any automatic trafficator. So he had fixed a red light near the corner of his windshield.

There was a blue bulb whose function I did not catch and a green one to indicate to the would-be passengers that nobody had the pleasure of riding in it.

In fact, the whole little car was a jumble of wires criss-crossing the hollow space underneath the keyboard but those streaking into the ceiling were most conspicuous of all. After the little thing got rolling

real fast on a long stretch of road uninterrupted by traffic lights, I felt a terrible draft. Looking around, I noticed a half-open window pane in the front which was precariously held by a screw. With some anger in my voice, I asked him why he had not fixed this window. That chilly draft would drive all his potential customers away.

He grinned his second grin and told me he was a busy man with plenty on his plate and practically no time at all. And the damned thing could not be fixed for good unless he did not have the whole door dismantled which took at least half a day. Besides, a gush of fresh air would do both of us a world of good.

That shut me up and I did not want to talk to him any more. So I occupied my wandering mind with the little red light again. Every time he intended to make a turn, the light flicked after switching it and went when he turned it off. It was the first "man-handled" trafficator I had ever seen.

But the red light was inside the car and nobody noticed it either from the front or behind. It was like an ingenious invention that did not benefit anyone. But he seemed to be highly amused with the little red light. It was his own handiwork and he was very proud of it.

Perhaps he was so preoccupied with his own red light that he did not notice some of the larger ones at the intersections.

Tid-Bits

Provincial Press

By A Staff Writer

World Peace and the Peoples' Support for it is the title of a recent editorial published in the daily Beidar of Mazare Sahir.

In today's world mankind more than any other thing is in dire need of peace and tranquility. Every one's efforts are directed to avoiding disputes and skirmishes which may endanger the international peace and security, writes the paper.

People who still remember the bloody battles and slaughter of human beings during World War II do not want further bloodshed and mass massacres, adds the paper. That is why, the paper goes on to say, whenever tension arises in one part of the world and all peace-lovers form one front and on the national and international level rise up against the factors which are threatening world peace and security.

The peace-lovers of the world are making strides and exerting all possible efforts to see that bilateral disputes and regional disturbances do not disturb the world's peace and tranquility. Therefore the parties concerned are advised and persuaded to resort to peaceful means in solving their differences.

The United Nations which itself is the creation of the peaceful minded people of the world has played great role since its inception 23 years ago, and has also given all-out support and due respect to those who work towards the lofty goal of securing a lasting peace in the world, points out the paper.

Undoubtedly, as long as the majority of the world's population continues to sincerely support the international peace and security humanity will not be brought to the brink of another destructive war such as the past two which inflicted untold losses of life and property, concludes the paper.

The daily Parwan of Parwan province also discusses the importance of peace in human community in an editorial entitled "Bright Horizons".

The people of the world, who have bitter memories of the tragedy of the World War II look with concern and anxiety at the bloody events in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, South Africa and Rhodesia which are hotbeds of tension.

There are thousands and thousands of victims and disabled people and women and children who have lost their husbands and fathers during the last war living under distressed conditions.

The damages inflicted on human community as a result of deadly war has not been completely healed and further more two thirds of the world's population battle hunger, poverty, disease and ignorance.

Yet situations in some parts of the world are fraught with the fear of bursting into flames of another destructive war, asserts the paper.

Countries who are in favour of peace and security in the world have always mediated among the disputing parties and have persuaded them to settle their differences by peaceful means around the conference table.

The Paris talks are also aimed at making United States and North Vietnam halt bloodshed in the South Vietnam and seek a solution to the Vietnam problem by bringing the issue from the battlefield to the conference table, says the paper.

The paper says now that some time has elapsed since the bombing halt by the United States over North Vietnam and the four warring parties have got together in Paris for an enlarged preliminary peace talks, there is every hope that, through a spirit of self-sacrifice on part of participants, peace will soon be brought to war-torn Southeast Asia.

Etefaq Islam of Herat has taken up, in its recent editorial, the investigation of corruption and embezzlement and has described them as two common social evils.

There are two kinds of social evils. One is when the harm is done to one who commits the crime and the other is when the criminal hurts others and society as a whole.

If someone bribes an official in fact he has broken the law and has acted against the norm of social ethics, and the one who takes bribe not only breaks the law but also makes other people and the society as a whole suffers from his act.

For instance if a taxpayer by bribing an official evades paying state taxes, on surface, two persons benefit. But in reality society which finances projects through state revenues suffers by not receiving all the taxes the people are expected to pay regularly and fully.

It is the national income which enables the state to finance some of the development projects in the country and if this income is reduced considerably through mutual consent of taxpayers and corrupt officials, thus financial position of the state will weaken, says the paper.

The paper expresses delight that the government has given priority to eliminating corruption from the country and also hopes the people will cooperate with the government towards this end.

Liverpool, England

Police tightened the net on a "Bonnie and Clyde" gang who sat boldly in a crowded hotel lobby and watched the hunt for themselves on television.

The gang of three youths and a blonde girl have been on a car-hopping run across Britain since Saturday night.

Brandishing a sawn-off shotgun, they stole four cars in succession at the weekend, dodging police in chases up to 100 miles per hour (160 kph). Police want the men for questioning in connection with a 20,000 sterling bank hold-up in Birmingham two weeks ago.

It was feared that a fourth man had joined them after a hotel porter reported seeing them at a hotel.

Donald Robinson, manager of the mount pleasant hotel where they stayed, said: "They seemed quite respectable and spent most of Sunday evening watching the television, including the news which showed the hunt".

None of the other guests suspected that the bandits were in their midst.

Washington

Thomas Hayden, a militant anti-Vietnam war group leader, was threatened with arrest when he used a four-letter word before a congressional sub-committee hearing on un-American activities.

Hayden, giving evidence about violence during the democratic national convention in Chicago last August, said the beating of demonstrators by police was a tremendous victory for the anti-war movement. It exposed the brute force of the American establishment.

The hearing, investigating the alleged role of communists in the Chicago demonstrations and any ties that demonstration leaders might have had with foreign powers, resumed yesterday after a two-month adjournment.

The sessions have been free of the picketing and demonstrations which marked earlier hearings.

Baghdad

Iraqi authorities re-studying a proposal for subsidising marriages to curb vice.

The proposal calls for taxes on unmarried people and financial subsidies to married couples. It also limits dowries paid to brides to a maximum of 50 dinars (about \$3 sterling).

Khairallah al-Talfah, governor of Baghdad district, said in a note to the interior ministry that he was proposing these measures to curb the spread of vice.

London

The crunch for the apple farmers of Britain came in the House of Commons.

Conservative member John Wells staged a one-man munch-in before the shocked gaze of Her Majesty's government and loyal opposition.

He steadfastly chomped his way through an apple as Prime Minister Harold Wilson sought to answer questions on the big issues of the day.

Point of order, cried a government member. But the speaker Dr. Horace King ruled he had no control over members' "masticating habits".

Wells said later the core of his demonstration was the British apple industry's need for long range quotas on apple imports.

Mendoza, Argentina

A police inspector, Santiago Araujo, threatened to arrest a soccer referee during the half time of a championship match here over a penalty he ordered against the local side.

The penalty by referee Alberto Ducatelli against the independent Rivadavia team, playing Boca juniors of Buenos Aires unleashed a wave of protest.

In the dressing rooms at half time Inspector Araujo threatened to arrest Ducatelli because the penalty had threatened public peace. Ducatelli threatened to stop the game and the half-time argument dragged on for 25 minutes while the crowds booed in the stands.

Finally the police inspector retired, the game resumed and ended in a one-all draw.

Florence

Three nuns were given jail sentences after a court had been told that they beat children with brooms and forced them to lick the sign of the cross drawn on the floor at a children's home here.

Two male employees, including the home's doctor, were sentenced with the nuns to terms of imprisonment, ranging from one to four years for mal-treating the children.

Toronto

Frank Thayer teaches a course in alchemy and vampirism at Centennial College of Applied Arts and

Technology

It is, of course, a night course. But, witches, warlocks, were wolves and vampires need not apply. "It's not an 'in-training' course or anything of the sort, the 29-year-old says.

"It is a speculative inquiry into the occult", he said. "We look at it from a historical point of view, examining witch trials and other examples from the past".

Thayer insists he does not encourage people solving their problems or their fears through the occult.

"I think it's becoming the thing in sophisticated circles", he said. "People are bored and are looking for kicks".

New York

A 19-year-old youth took a single-engine plane from a New Jersey airport and ditched it in the Atlantic after flying round New York city for several hours, the Coast Guard said.

The plane, a Piper Cherokee, was taken from Lakewood Airbase by the youth who was reported to be under the care of a psychiatrist. It crashed into the sea about 40 to 50 miles (60 to 80 kms) off the Norfolk, Virginia, coast.

Rochester, Michigan

New airplanes being developed will carry twice as much payload as 1968 aircraft of the same size, the assistant secretary of the U.S. army for research and development predicted.

Dr. Russel D. O'Neal said that chemical fibres seven times as strong as aluminium alloys will come into use for airplane frames.

"Perhaps one of the most exciting developments in the history of aviation is about to occur in materials," he said. "Organic chemists and physical scientists have been developing fibres of exceptional strength which allows a new dimension of freedom to the aircraft engineer."

He cited specifically carbon and boron fibres.

Los Angeles and Hollywood residents, who include many film stars, are entitled to walk around nude on their private property, a court ruled.

The appellate department of the Los Angeles Superior Court ruled invalid a Los Angeles county law which prohibits "exposure of private parts in the presence of two or more persons of the opposite sex", because it dealt in a lawmaking field which belonged to the state.

The three male judges upheld a ruling by a Malibu court that 11 men and 11 women who were nude on a north Hollywood property called "Elysium Fields" last summer, had committed no offense.

Three of the nudist pairs arrested were married. The camp belonged to Erwin C. Lang, 42, who was one of the people arrested.

Neighbours of the property had lodged complaints with police that they could see activities in Elysium Fields from their own backyards.

Lyons, France

The Urbatrain, which glides along a rail on a cushion of air, went on show to the world's press here.

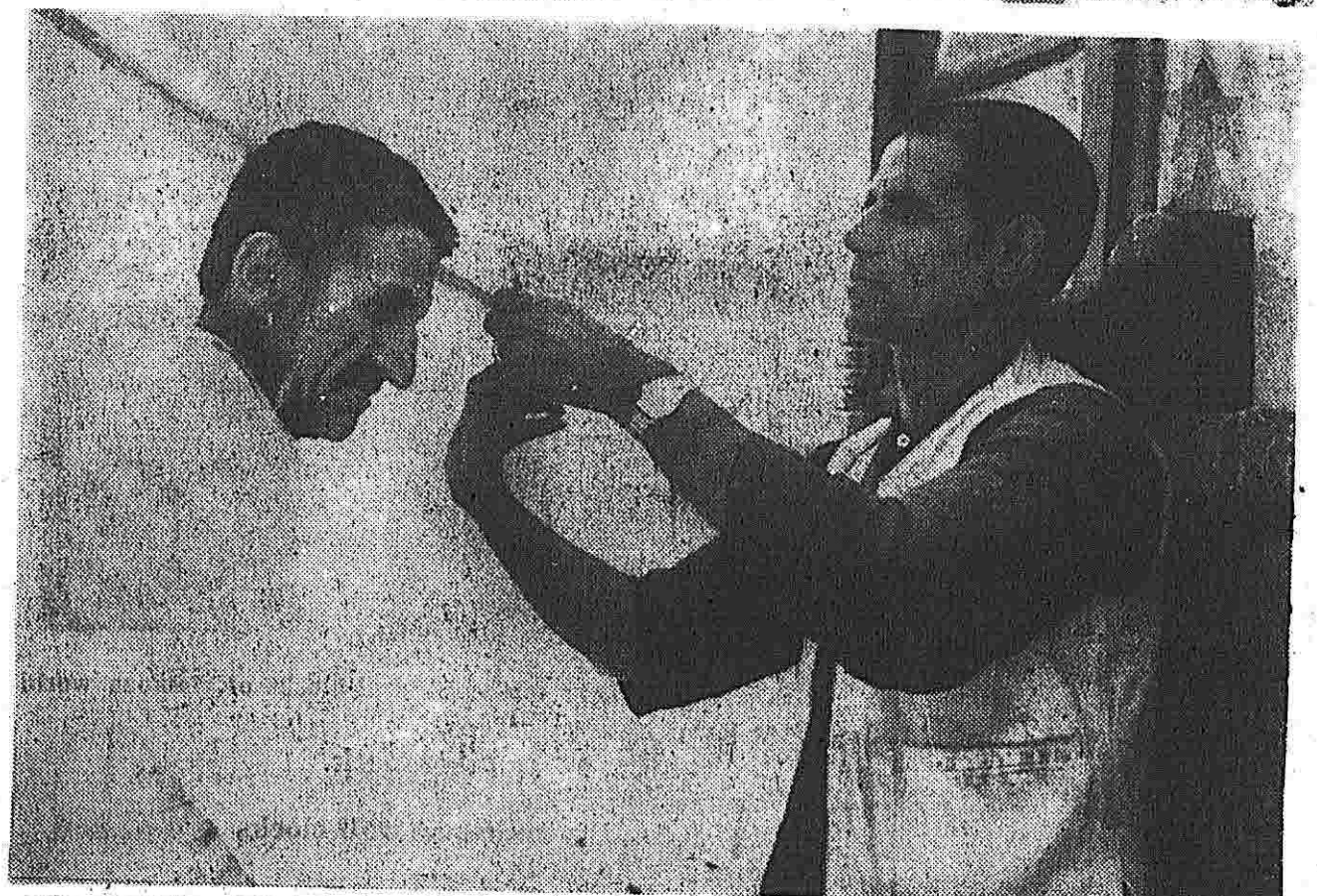
The first operational passenger-carrying vehicle driven by a Libear induction motor, it will go into service in 1970 on an experimental line along the banks of the Rhone here.

The Urbatrain, which looks like two boxes hung on a rail, can accelerate to 50 kilometres per hour (31 mph) in 40 yards (36 metres) and brake to a stop again in less than 20 yards (18 metres).

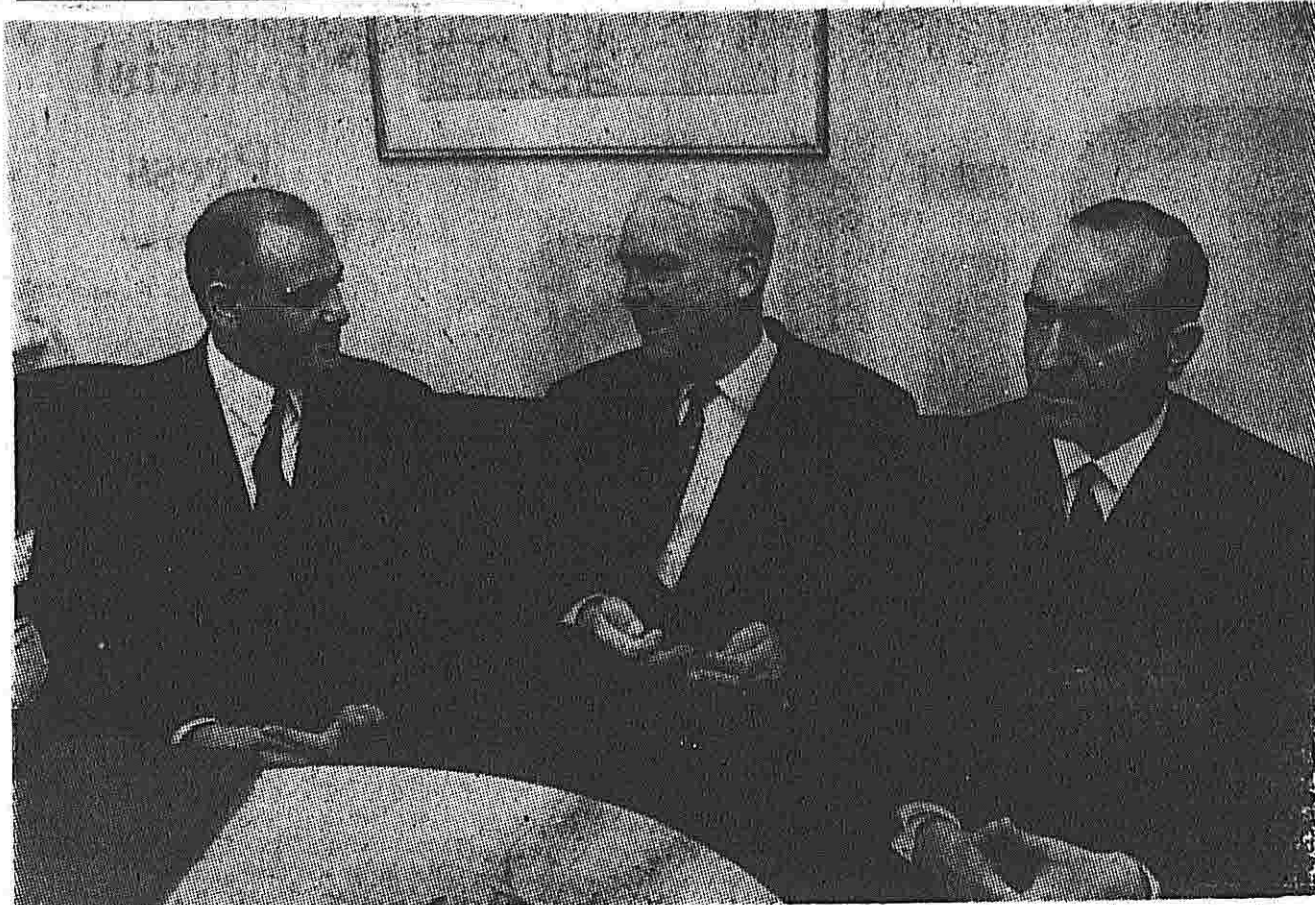
Suction fans create a partial vacuum between the train and the rail.

Detroit, Michigan

Mutations—some of them fatal—have occurred in offspring of male fruit flies fed the so-called "mind expanding" chemical LSD, a Wayne State University re-



The majority of Kabul men get their locks clipped by street-corner barbers. Often haircuts can be a close shave as most men take it all off so that they won't have to face the ordeal for at least three months. Kabul women, however, prefer the new look in hair styles and that involves having their hair coiffured by trained hair dressers in modern beauty parlours. But there are still plenty of excellent barbershops in town for the man who cares.



The commander of the police and gendarmery forces, Brig. Gen. Rahim Naseri (1st left) who is now visiting FRG police institutes is seen here with minister counsellor in the FRG Interior Ministry Fr. Fioc. On the right is First Lt. Menapal.

Table talk: Paris delegates still can't decide on shape

PARIS, Dec. 11, (AFP).—Two-hour discussions yesterday between the deputy leaders of the American and North Vietnamese delegations to the peace talks here failed to make any headway towards fixing a date for the first plenary session.

Weather

Skies in the northern, northeastern, southern, southwestern, eastern and central regions will be cloudy without rain and snow. Other parts of the country will be cloudy with rain and snow. Yesterday the warmest areas were Bost, Kandahar and Farah with a high of 18 C, 64 F. The coldest areas were Lal, Gardez, North and South Salang with a low of -6 C, 21 F. Yesterday North Salang had 20 mm rain, 117 cm snow. South Salang 155 mm, 140 cm, Shahrak 17 mm, 25 cm, Ghazni 12 mm, 18 cm, Bamian 5 mm, Kandahar 10 mm, Herat 18 mm, and Kabul 5 mm rain. Today's temperature in Kabul at 12:00 noon was 3 C, 37 F with clear sky. Wind speed was recorded in Kabul at 5 to 7 knots.

Yesterday's temperatures:

Kabul	3 C	0 C
	37 F	32 F
Mazare Sharif	9 C	0 C
	48 F	32 F
Herat	11 C	4 C
	52 F	39 F
Jalalabad	11 C	10 C
	52 F	50 F
Ghazni	6 C	0 C
	43 F	32 F
Kunduz	12 C	8 C
	53 F	46 F
Bamian	4 C	2 C
	39 F	36 F



ARIANA CINEMA:
At 12, 2, 7 and 9 p.m. American colour film dubbed in Farsi **THOSE CALLOWAYS** with **BRANKINETH, VERA MILES** and **BRANDON DEWILDE**.

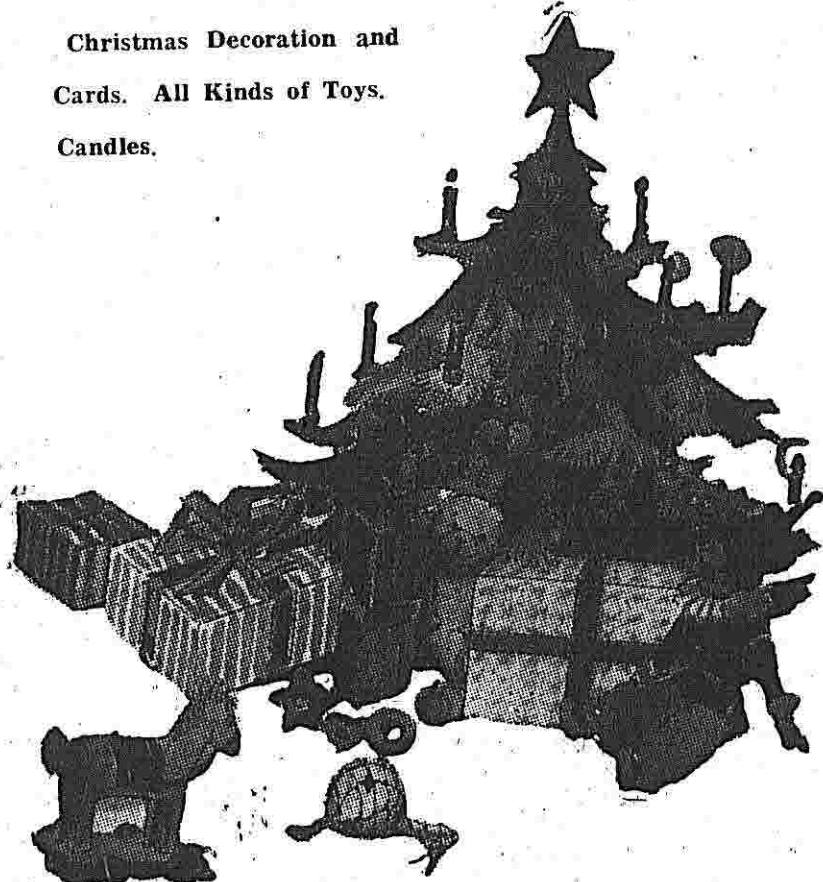
PARK CINEMA:
At 12, 2, 7 and 9 p.m. Iranian film **ONE STEP TO HEAVEN** with **Wahdat** and **Pori Banayee**. called for more skt **R. ATAAH**

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Banking system in Indonesia undergoes reform

DJAKARTA, Dec. 11, (Reuters).—Indonesia has completed banking reforms to streamline its state banking system and remove some of the abuses and disruption it suffered under former President Sukarno's regime.

A series of six banking laws just passed by parliament and now awaiting presidential signature revoke a structural reform introduced by Jusuf Muda Dalam, Sukarno's former central bank minister.

Jusuf made Indonesia's five state banks, mainly consisting of Dutch concerns nationalised by Sukarno's government, into five single units of the same bank in order to bring them under one command.

The new laws cancels this system and set up each bank separately again.

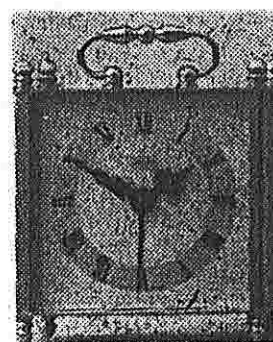
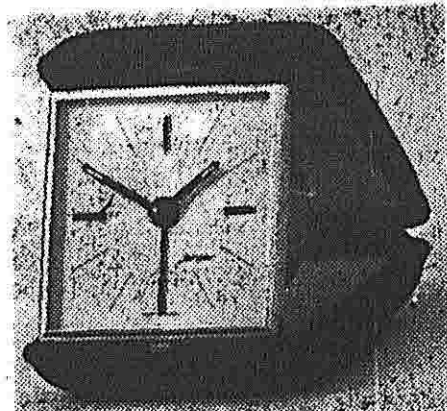
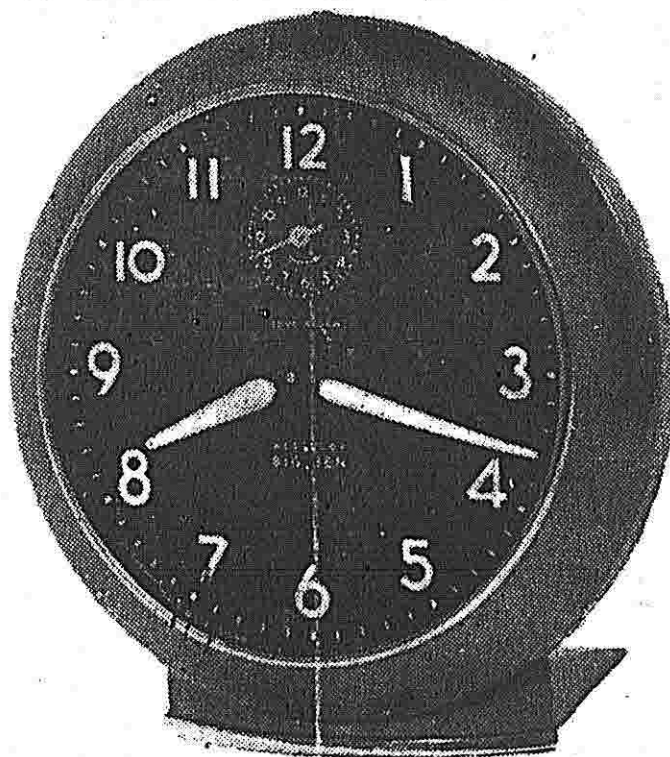
The idea behind the separation of the five banks is to create healthy competition between them since their functions overlap in many instances.

UNICEF eid mubarak cards

Help the poor children by buying UNICEF Eid Mubarak cards. You might like to greet your relatives, friends and business contacts in Afghanistan as well as in other countries where the Holy Festival of Eid is celebrated. UNICEF Cards for Eid greetings.

One card with high quality envelope costs Af. 8. A box of 10 cards and envelopes Af. 75.

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3. British Smiths table and wall clocks
4. Jerger table clock

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Address: First floor Pashtany Tejaraty Bank and Watch shop on the first floor of the Park Hotel in Mohammad Jan Khan Wat.

Italy's new super-scandal

(Continued from page 2)
ions of lire disappeared without trace, it is claimed that at least 106 million lire went to the Christian Democrats, and lesser sums to the neo-fascists, Socialists and Monarchists. According to the prosecution's allegations, this Christian Democrat-headed apparatus was for years financing local electors campaigns not only of its own party but those of its left and rightwing opponents too. Bavaro, who spent some time in preventive custody during the investigations, is stated by the authorities not to contest the allegations, but to have said the only way INIGIC could make any impact was by adopting the methods of its private sector rivals. Bavaro is not the only parliamentarian involved. During the

investigations the judicial authorities twice asked Parliament to lift the immunity of 17 members (10 Christian Democrats, five Socialists, one Communist, one neo-fascist). But Parliament rejected the requests, on the grounds that the members in question evidently drew no personal benefit but passed the sums on to party funds. Now that the investigating magistrate has laid charges, another application to Parliament may be made.

While the party newspapers have been giving little prominence to the scandal—it shows all parties in a bad light—the independent press has been expressing alarm at how political life in Italy is financed. Political parties in this country, of which there are eight represented in Parliament,

are no more willing to disclose the sources of their funds than parties anywhere.

A common criticism is that they live in their own world of political manoeuvring and intrigue out of touch with the mass of the electorate. The independent weekly L'Espresso speculated that similar forms of occult financing "in all probability continue to be carried out by dozens of public bodies, with a lack of adequate supervision and supervisors really determined to supervise". The Milan Corriere della Sera, largest Italian daily newspaper, commented: "As usual, the only people to suffer damage are the Italians, the citizens, the taxpayers."

The ramifications of the INIGIC affair are so far-reaching that many people doubt whether anything will ever come of it at all. It will take another year or perhaps two before all formalities for notifying the accused and bringing them to trial can be completed. The accused have influential connections, with all that this implies.

Their 500 or 600 defence lawyers will be watching out for any procedural or other chance of delaying matters.

It may not prove easy to find a place large enough for the trial—some have half humorously suggested the ruins of the Colosseum. Then another few years will pass for appeals to be heard and for the case to go to the Court of Cassation or Supreme Court. And by the early 1970s, many alleged offences will have automatically been extinguished under the statute of limitations.

Italians have often seen what promised to be a big affair fizzle out in nothing. They have a phrase for it—it makes "un buco nell'acqua"—a hole in the water."

(FWF)

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